

the Gateway

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003

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News Brief

Town hall meeting

A Rhein-Main Town Hall meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the base theater.

Submit any questions or concerns for the meeting to pa@rheinmain.af.mil.

Award winners

Congratulations to two senior NCOs from the 726th Air Mobility Squadron who recently earned Air Mobility Command honors.

■ **Master Sgt. Timothy Anderson** – 2004 AMC Quality Assurance Senior NCO of the Year;

■ **Master Sgt. John Roberts** – AMC Maintenance Analyst NCO of the Year (Sergeant Roberts was a technical sergeant at the time of competition.)

Services award

Congratulations to **Kc Radloff**, 469th Air Base Group Services Flight, who was recently named the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Services Flight Chief of the Year for 2005.

New bowling hours

The Rocket Bowling Center and Liberty Cafe will begin new hours of operation May 2.

The bowling center will be open noon to 8 p.m. Mondays - Fridays; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Liberty Cafe will be open 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Mondays - Fridays; 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Call 330-7219 for more details.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

Going to school

Members of WISAG, the base security contractor, give instructor Senior Master Sgt. Trina Douglas, 469th Air Base Group Finance Office, their undivided attention during a Customer College class Tuesday in Bldg. 343. Forty employees attended the class, designed to improve customer service skills, as part of a joint venture between WISAG and the 469th ABG to further relations between the employees and members of Team Rhein-Main.

Force shaping calls for leadership by example

By Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman
USAFE Command Chief Master Sergeant

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) – As we all know, the Air Force is going through a force shaping that's mandated by law. The law requires us to reduce personnel manning numbers. When it's all said and done, by stopping accessions and limiting the number of new recruits, Air Force manning will be reduced by more than 22,000 people.

"Without fresh recruits coming from basic training, tasks traditionally

performed by airmen basics are now resting on the shoulders of our airmen first class and senior airmen creating a ripple effect into the Noncommissioned Officer tier."

This effect will dissipate over time as we put this brief recruiting freeze behind us, but will challenge us all in the short term – particularly our mid-level NCOs.

Today's NCOs are at the core of everything we do; making the Air Force "go," day in and day out. Our staff and technical sergeants represent the bulk of

— See **Force**, Page 6



USAFE Airman Information File

April 2005

Embracing Change!

The only thing that remains constant is change -- it happens around us everyday. When we face change we can choose to embrace it, or ignore it and let change occur without us.

When we continue with business as usual instead of rising to the challenge of change, we eventually become extinct, but by embracing change we ensure our relevancy into the future. The Air Force has fought in many different conflicts over the years. Each operation requires us to review our strategies and tactics to guarantee they are the best to win our current, and future, fights.

During the Cold War, we prepared ourselves to face a large superpower. The tragic events on 9/11 presented us with an enemy that required different strategies and tactics. Today, we face an organized system of terrorists who wear no uniforms. With this new fight come new challenges like quickly being able to take out fleeting and mobile targets. We also need to figure out how to handle and neutralize a terrorist who has strapped-on C4 explosives before he can harm others. It's clear change is required for us to remain relevant and successfully win all future conflicts.

There are different aspects to change. One aspect is the technical challenge -- solving the problems that allow us to adapt and overcome. Harnessing new technology and exploiting it against our enemies is one way we can adapt to meet these technical challenges. The other aspect, and usually the more difficult to achieve, is the attitude and motivation required to effectively change. Vince Lombardi stated, "The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will." Most of us are normally resistant to change -- mainly because change brings out a fear of the unknown. It requires us to move out of our comfort zone into unfamiliar territory. Others oppose change because of a fear of failure.

History holds many examples where failure accompanied initial change, but through perseverance, success was eventually achieved. Abraham Lincoln failed early at business, was defeated in his run for the Senate and passed over as a Vice-Presidential candidate, but he never gave up. He went on to become one of the greatest Presidents of our United States with the courage to change our nation in ways that are still being felt today. Change requires the courage to move out of the familiar into the unfamiliar and to overcome our fears and failures until we succeed.

Change -- it's inevitable. We can anticipate it, embrace it, lead the way and be successful, or we can drag our feet, let change happen and react after it's too late. It's been said that when you're through changing, you're through. Stay ahead of all who oppose us and keep us the most respected and feared Air Force in the world -- embrace change!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doc", followed by a long horizontal line.

General Doc Foglesong

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AMCL", followed by a horizontal line.

CMSgt Gary Coleman

"Bring Your Courage"

R-M families visit Spangdahlem for sneak preview of new digs

By Senior Airman Amaani Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

So goes an old saying that claims only three things matter in real estate: location, location, location.

For the 120-plus members who comprise the 726th Air Mobility Squadron at Rhein-Main Air Base the country remains the same, but their location will soon be radically different.

As the permanent closure of Rhein-Main draws near, about 50 of the squadron's members and personnel from the 469th Air Base Group and their families took a trek to Spangdahlem via bus April 15 to get the lay of the land and a sneak preview of their new living, working, entertainment and school facilities.

The new squadron's projected stand up is Oct. 1, just months before the scheduled completion of the Rhein-Main Transition Program, the ambitious half-billion dollar base expansion project that will enable Spangdahlem AB to support cargo and passenger traffic as part of its new airlift mission.

"The great support we're getting from the host base makes adjustment that much easier for this influx of inbound people," said Lt. Col. Jim Kirk, 726th AMS director of operations and soon-to-be 726th AMS commander. "We don't want to be transparent to the host base, but enhance it — we're really looking forward to the relationship with Spangdahlem (Air Base)."

Upon arrival here, 726th AMS members got the lowdown about base projects both in progress and beyond RMTP.

Lt. Col. Mitch Gordon, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron commander, described such endeavors as the eventual combining of the Bitburg Annex and Spangdahlem Air Base, the construction of a new fitness center and a 35-40 million dollar base exchange and commissary complex.

"It's a good time to be a part of Spangdahlem Air Base," Colonel Gordon said. "We can provide more robust (air and expeditionary force) support if we put all our eggs in one basket, so to speak."

Despite vast improvements on the horizon for Spangdahlem AB, Airman 1st Class Jeff Akin, 726th AMS air transportation specialist, said he's already pleased with what the base offers.

"Club Eifel is awesome and the whole base is definitely a step up for the hard-working Airmen in our squadron," Airman Akin said. "I love that everything here is so accessible and well laid out — I really learned a lot from this tour," he said.

Another future resident said she looks forward to resuming life's simpler pleasures upon her arrival here.

"I'll be actively seeking off-base housing, since one of my favorite things to do now is go out on my front lawn, cut the grass, garden and chat with my German neighbors," said Jennifer Haler, wife of Capt. Eric Haler, 726th AMS air transportation operations center chief.

Base closure yard sale rules of engagement

Following are rules of engagement for people or organizations interested in selling items during the Rhein-Main Base Closure Yard Sale set for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30 in Gateway Gardens:

- Only Rhein-Main affiliated Department of Defense employees and dependents may sell items. Items must be personal belongings only — no commercial sales. (This include on and off-base residents.)

- Off-base residents should contact Michelle Wilkinson no later than Thursday.

- Organizations interested in operating food booths should contact Our House during business hours at 330-7913 or 069-699-7913 to reserve

a slot. Deadline to register is Thursday. Availability is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once a slot is reserved, organizations must get the base commander's approval to conduct a fundraiser. The request must be routed through the 469th Air Base Group Services Flight, base legal office and the public health office.

- People interested in selling a privately-owned vehicle should call Our House during business hours at 330-7913 or 069-699-7913 to reserve a space. Deadline to register is Thursday. In addition, a copy of the vehicles registration must be

submitted, along with the name, duty phone and organization of the seller. The seller must also sign a document acknowledging cars must be dropped off after 5 p.m. April 29 and must be picked up by 3 p.m. April 30.

POVs may not be sold without completing this process. POVs not properly authorized or not picked up on time will be considered abandoned.

Only Rhein-Main affiliated personnel may sell POVs. Stickers will be placed on the windshield to identify the POV as an authorized vehicle.



Keepin' an eye out for buddies, Wingmen

Aaah, spring is in the air.

This season truly changes us and our perspective. No longer are we confined to the indoors, no longer are we reluctant to go outside to risk our lives on the icy autobahns, no longer do we dread the layers of clothing we have to put on just to go outside.

No, this season has already presented us with crisp breezes and sparkling sunshine that lure us outside to our barbecues, to the local schwimmbads, and for some to enjoy outdoor entertainment and fests in local cities.

I've already noticed the Soldiers and Airmen in my unit and on our air base.

The barbecues at the contingency barracks seem to be a happening place – more often than not, when I drive by Bldg. 340 I see a group of Airmen and Soldiers relaxing at the end of the day and enjoying a barbecue with each other.

I see the roads here on base – morning or evening – provide the free space and opportunity for runners to get their exercise – as great escapes and a break from the confinement of indoors.

Additionally, I've already heard many of our young servicemembers talking about making weekend plans.

Some plan on taking weekend excursions, while others plan on staying right here to enjoy a night on the town in the big city.

While I encourage any American – military or civilian – who's had the opportunity to be stationed in Germany to travel and enjoy the culture, I also encourage the use of the buddy system.

Each of our branches has a name for this – in the Army we call it your "Battle Buddy" – while our Air Force counterparts call it your "Wingman".

In any case, this is the person who you know you can depend on if and when you need them the most – this could be your friend from the barracks, your spouse or even your coworker.

The buddy system is for everyone who is stationed overseas. It's for those of us who drive

a POV or a motorcycle; for those of us who participate in sports, water and other recreation activities; it's for those of us who grill, or those of us who spend time under the sun.

With POV's, for instance, check with your Wingman to ensure that the vehicle has been properly inspected and, if they're returning from



By Capt. Catherine Booth-Calero
64th Replacement Company

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The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.

The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.

If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.

Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.

The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.



Col. Bradley Denison
Commander, 469th Air Base Group

330-7779

————— See *Battle Buddy*, Page 5

the Gateway

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The deadline for the May 6 edition of the Gateway is 4 p.m. April 28.

Warriors of the Week



Kerstin Thiel

Unit: 469th ABG Family Support Center
Time working for the Air Force: 18 months
Time at Rhein-Main: 18 months
Duty Title: Community readiness consultant
Hometown: Indianapolis, Ind.
Hobbies: Reading and learning.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 Seeing my dad retire from the Air Force and knowing that I'm helping the Department of Defense community.



Geraldine Ravago

Unit: 469th ABG Family Support Center
Time working for the Air Force: 29 months
Time at Rhein-Main: 29 months
Duty Title: Family support technician
Hometown: Stuttgart, Germany
Hobbies: Working out, reading, writing and learning foreign languages.
What has been your best Air Force experience?
 Working with the awesome staff of the FSC and the Rhein-Main community.

BATTLE BUDDY, from Page 4

downrange ensure they've received some sort of reorientation to the driving laws and conditions in the local area.

Check your Battle Buddy to ensure they've got a helmet when riding a motorcycle. When grilling, make sure your Wingman cooks in a safe area, uses the correct fuel – and uses it correctly.

As the weather becomes warmer, let's keep our eyes on each other to watch for potential signs of heat exhaustion. When going swimming or boating, ask your Battle Buddy if they know how to swim or not, make sure life vests are available.

When going to the clubs, gather your Battle Buddies and your Wingmen together and go as a group – you'll be more likely to prevent

unnecessary confrontations that could lead to serious injury.

Instead of having just one "DD or designated driver," have several. This way, when the liquor kicks in one person is not responsible for the actions of the group.

Above all, let's keep each other in check to prevent drinking and driving, either on the roads or in the water.

Frankfurt and the surrounding area is a fantastic region with much to offer, so let's enjoy it.

Spring is here and summer is just around the corner. We've got lots to look forward to and buddies and Airmen to watch out for.

Let's keep each other in mind when we go out for some fun and let's watch out for each other so that we can all greet winter when it comes back.

Give gift of life

A Rhein-Main Community Blood Drive is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 3 at the base fitness center.

Active-duty military, dependents and DoD beneficiaries can give blood.

People wanting to give blood should visit the following site from a government computer, <http://132.51.121.222/donor/index.htm> to determine eligibility.

If eligible, call 330-4256 or 069-699-4256 to schedule a donation time. Those with appointments will have priority over walk-ins.

Donating blood is a simple way for nearly anyone to save up to three lives.

During the last Rhein-Main blood drive in March, 63 units of blood were collected, saving the government \$16,000.

(Courtesy of the base clinic)

Forging a lasting friendship

By 1st Lt. Uriah Orland
Public Affairs

As a special thank you for 32 years of friendship, base leaders presented the city of Trebur with an American flag flown over the base at a party celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the Trebur TSV association April 15 in Trebur.

The city mayor, Jürgen Arnold, accepted the token of friendship from Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, and Lt. Col. Michael Polhemus, 726th Air Mobility Squadron commander.

The relationship between Rhein-Main and Trebur began in 1972, when they city invited the base to participate in Fasching. Representatives from the base have marched nearly every year since, missing only two years.

"Throughout the years, this has been a strong relationship and one that will be missed when we close," said Colonel Denison.



The city of Trebur's coat of arms represents the conjunction of the Rhein, Neckar and Main rivers. The city of 13,000 is located 25 kilometers from Rhein-Main.

Another popular activity between the city and the base is volksmarching. The base first participated in 1990 when 623 Airmen joined the city for their "Wander tag." The base won the traveling trophy for participation from 1990-1995 and again in 1998.

The city has also hosted numerous military marching bands. The U.S. military was invited to march in the Ginsheim parade in 1995.

Over the years the base has reciprocated invites and hosted many tours for the citizens of Trebur. Last year, a group came to visit a



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Michael Polhemus, 726th Air Mobility Squadron commander, (left) and Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, (right) present Jürgen Arnold, Trebur mayor, with a flag flown over Rhein-Main during a ceremony April 15 in Trebur.

Team Rhein-Main meeting in full Fasching costume. Later in the day they sang to members of the 726th AMS from the back of a C-17 Globemaster III.

There have also been school exchanges between the German elementary school and Halvorsen Tunner American School.

Most recently, the city hosted 11 Airmen for Christmas day and invited them to spend the day with local families to experience how Germans celebrate the holiday.

"Our relationship with Trebur has been something very special," said Colonel Polhemus. "The cultural experience has been wonderful for the many that the community has touched, and the friendships will last long after the closure of Rhein-Main.

"I also think we have been able to show the US military community in a positive light. I will certainly miss them when we leave," he added.

FORCE, from Page 1

the enlisted force structure, performing above expectation almost routinely in positions above them. They are filling key leadership billets previously only filled by Senior NCOs, and still they're the ultimate technicians. They perform highly complex technical duties, while at the same time supervising and mentoring the next generation behind them.

Force shaping calls for leadership by example, something our current crop of mid-level NCOs do best. They understand the roles and responsibilities that define them must be as flexible as possible. Through this flexibility, they can stretch beyond their normal limits and meet the next task on the horizon head on.

This temporary recruitment freeze will bring challenges of its own, even as it helps us shape a more efficient force structure. Whatever challenges it brings, I know our NCO corps is up to the task, because it has been tested time and time again and has never failed to perform. Using leadership and dedication, today's NCO continues to lead the way.

0-0-1-3 program

Teaching responsible drinking

By Airman 1st Class Lauren Sixbey
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

F. E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. — The 0-0-1-3 program here began one year ago as a reaction to a national health crisis. Binge drinking, underage drinking and driving under the influence had become all too common.

“(Alcohol) has affected every community every campus (and) pretty much every place that touches lives across the nation,” said Col. Evan Hoapili, 90th Space Wing commander here. “As a military, we represent the society we serve.”

For that reason, base officials, with the help of Wyoming first lady Nancy Freudenthal and a nonprofit organization called Facing Alcohol Concerns Through Education, created the program, which is designed to increase awareness of responsible drinking.

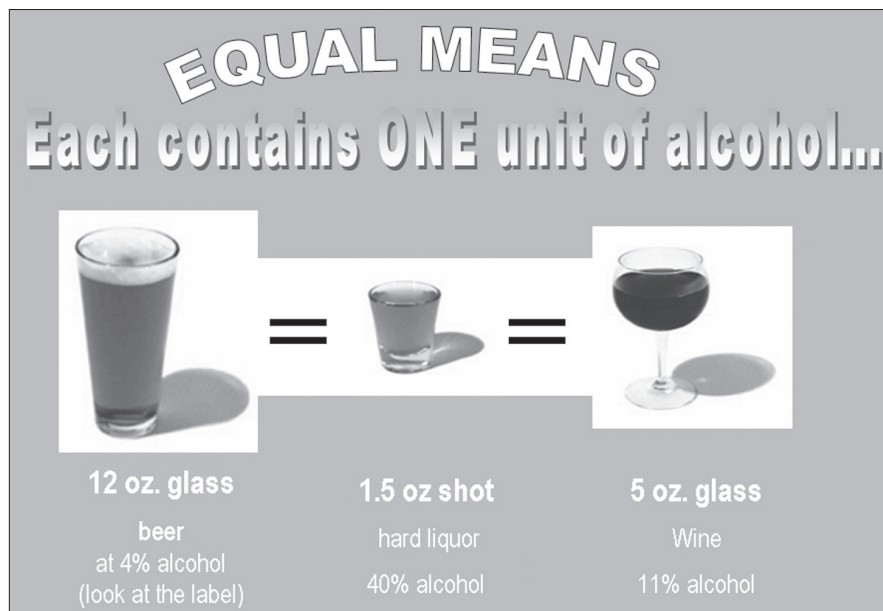
“Every single quarter since we’ve implemented this program we’ve seen an increase in reduction of alcohol-related incidents,” Colonel Hoapili said.

The average age for alcohol-related offenders has risen from 19 in 2003 to 22 in 2004. Also, the average blood-alcohol content has declined in each of the offenders, officials said.

Alcohol facts

- Binge drinking is more common among men than women.
- Most wine coolers have the same amount of alcohol as a 12 ounce beer
- Excessive drinking can decrease the amount of testosterone in a man's body and cause impotence.
- Women absorb alcohol into the bloodstream faster and metabolize it slower than men.
- A daily glass of wine will add 10 pounds per year.

(Information courtesy of the 469th Air Base Group Clinic)



Graphic by Master Sgt. Steven Callon

The program is based on science and physiology. The first “0” stands for zero drinks for those younger than 21. The second “0” stands for zero DUI offenses. The “1” stands for one drink per hour to give the liver enough time to process the alcohol. The “3” stands for a maximum of three drinks per night to keep the body’s blood-alcohol content below 0.05 percent.

The purposes of the program are threefold, Colonel Hoapili said. First, it reminds people that it is not prohibition. Second, it keeps most people under the legal threshold of a blood-alcohol content of 0.05 percent. Third, it allows people to keep their behavior at a personally responsible level.

Four phases have debuted since the program’s inception. Themes were “Bad Call,” “Beer Man,” “There’s More to Life” and “It’s About Drinking Responsibly.”

The themes have taken different approaches to the program, from showing the consequences of a DUI offense, to poking fun at the common criticisms and misperceptions, to showing

more productive activities, officials said.

Those productive activities, officials said, provide Airmen something of value in exchange for drinking, including late night basketball, late night dances, late night pool parties and a paint ball course.

Young Airmen run Dorm Escape in the First Term Airmen’s Center. It is open five nights a week and provides video games, movies on big screen televisions, pool, foosball and other recreational activities.

Airmen here have embraced the program.

“(If you) stick to the rules, you will stay out of trouble,” said Airman 1st Class Dwane Samuel, of the 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

“People like to poke fun at the 0-0-1-3 program, but you can’t go into a bar and not think about it,” said Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon, of the 90th Space Wing. “Airmen are changing the way they have fun.”

“It’s worthwhile because it takes care of our most precious resource — our people,” Colonel Hoapili said. “This program keeps our people safe.”

Base recognizes youth of the year

Story and photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

The staff of the Rhein-Main Youth Center recognized the final Youth of the Year award winner in the history of Rhein-Main during a ceremony April 8 at the center.

Chris Kitterman, son of Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dennis Kitterman, 469th Air Base Group Chapel, and Cecilia Kitterman, won the award for his activity in the community and his example of character, leadership and service to the club, according to the youth center staff.

"I'm just glad I had the opportunity to win this award for my parents and my family," said Chris Kitterman.

The winner was selected based on their involvement in seven areas: home and family, moral character, community, school service to club, life goals, and two essays – "What the club means to me?" and "Why a post-high school education is important to me?"

Chris, the oldest of three boys, is a member of the National Honor Society, booster club, and senior class activity committee at H.H. Arnold High School in Wiesbaden. He is also an assistant sports coach at the youth center and a member of the Keystone Club.

He has also volunteered at the base post office, helped at the USO and planned Keystone Club events. He was recently awarded a \$84,200 scholarship to University of Miami and was accepted into the school's dual degree program.



Chris Kitterman makes his acceptance speech during the youth of the year awards ceremony April 8 at the Rhein-Main Youth Center as Travis McKinney, Rhein-Main Teen and Pre-Teen Boys and Girls Club coordinator, looks on.

"Any one could be the youth of the year with a little hard work and dedication," said Chris.

Juliet Wells, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Barbara Wells, 469th ABG Clinic, was named the runner-up.

Aircraft lighter ban also applies to military

By Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Anyone — including servicemembers — carrying lighters will be required to surrender them at U.S. airport security checkpoints before boarding aircraft under a new federal law that became effective April 14, Transportation Security Administration officials said.

The new law also applies to military and civilian passengers on commercially chartered U.S. military overseas flights, said Army Lt. Col. Scott Ross, a spokesman with U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Because of al-Qaida efforts to create improvised explosive devices, "prohibiting

lighters onboard aircraft and in the sterile areas of airports will reduce current security vulnerabilities and add another layer of defense," a TSA document stated.

President Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 on Dec. 17, 2004. The act mandates that butane lighters be added to the list of items prohibited from being carried aboard aircraft arriving or departing at U.S. commercial airports.

The new law applies to "anything that produces a flame," including Zippo brand and other lighters, said TSA spokesman Chris Jolma.

However, aircraft passengers may still carry up to four books of matches.

The law also bans lighters from being placed in carry-on luggage or cargo baggage, according to the TSA.



"Wherever there's a TSA (security) checkpoint, we're responsible for enforcing the law," Mr. Jolma said. "Folks should definitely inspect their baggage before going to the airport, just to avoid the hassle."

On Dec. 22, 2001, passengers aboard American Airlines Flight 63 en route from Paris to Miami stopped British citizen Richard Reid from lighting a fuse attached to an explosive hidden inside his sneakers.

The self-confessed al-Qaida sympathizer was later convicted in a U.S. federal court of trying to blow up the plane. He is now serving a life sentence.

Mr. Jolma said the failed attempt to bring down Flight 63 alerted U.S. authorities of the need to tighten up airline security. And, he said, global terrorists continue to look for "innovative means" to bring down aircraft.



Closure Corner

This section is devoted to giving the Rhein-Main Community the most up-to-date information concerning base closure issues. All dates presented in this section are subject to change based on: manpower figures, personnel assignment information and ongoing U.S. Air Forces in Europe coordination.

Q: When will ID card services be terminated at Rhein-Main?

A: The 469th Air Base Group Commander's Support Staff is scheduled to terminate ID card services Oct. 1. The staff will continue to provide this service to military and their family members, retirees and civilians until this date.

Q: Do family members need to have a SOFA (Status of Forces Agreement) stamp when they PCS?

A: Yes. Family members PCSing from Rhein-Main must have the SOFA stamp (laminated card) in their passports to provide to customs as proof of residence in Germany. This is in addition to military orders. Military or civilian personnel going to another assignment within Europe will need to replace SOFA stamps at their new duty location to ensure U.S. Army Europe has the most current data. The CSS will continue to issue SOFA stamps until closure.

Q: When will passport services end?

A: Passport services at the CSS will end June 1. Applications for changes, replacements or new additions will not be accepted after

May 15. After this date, military, family members and civilians will have to visit the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt to process new applications. Military members need to ensure their family's passports will be current through a PCS from Rhein-Main. The turnaround time for replacement passports is four to eight weeks.

Q: How much does a passport cost?

A: As of March 8, a \$12 surcharge was added to the cost of a passport, bring the totals up to:

- Under 16 years of age renewals and first-time applicants – \$82
- Over 16 first-time applicants – \$97
- Over 16 renewals – \$67

The surcharge is applied worldwide and will be used to support the issuance of a redesigned passport containing new security features. There is no change for command-sponsored, no-fee passports.

Q: When will the base clinic close?

A: The main clinic building closes June 30. Dental services will also cease. The alternate clinic, in Bldg. 340 on the main base, will open July 5. The staff will offer acute care minor illness treatment and pediatric wellness exams. There will be limited lab and pharmacy services. An independent duty medical technician aid

station will open Aug. 15. The staff will provide care to active duty members only.

Q: When will lab services close?

A: The lab staff will be able to draw and process blood until June 30. After this date, patients will be sent to Darmstadt or Wiesbaden for all but the most basic tests.

Q: What about overseas clearance appointments?

A: Members moving to another overseas assignment or who have a special needs family member should call 330-4211 as soon as possible to make clearance appointments.

Q: What can I do for medical care if my family is staying with me past Aug. 15?

A: Anyone who has family staying past Aug. 15 or children with medical issues are encouraged to enroll with another local facility. After Aug. 15, children and dependent acute care will only be offered at local facilities, the Flughafen or Uniklinik.

Q: How can I receive dental service after the clinic closes?

A: Family members are encouraged to enroll in the United Concordia Dental plan for care after the clinic closure. Care at other military clinics will be "space available".

Q: When can family members complete dental clearance letters?

A: For those family members required to complete dental clearances for overseas assignments, exams should be done by June 30. Dental records will be hand carried to gaining bases and should be picked up by June 30.

DUI/DWI Tracker

Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

469th Air Base Group

190 days

726th Air Mobility Squadron

73 days

64th Replacement Company

338 days

Tenant Units

122 days

Others

265 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.

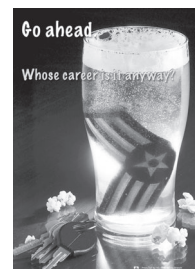




Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

The hammer

Trey Walker, 469th Air Base Group Communications Flight, puts the ball down against the block of the 726th Air Mobility Squadron "B" squad during an intramural volleyball match Tuesday at the base fitness center. The 726th AMS "B" squad won the match 25-23 and 25-21, handing Comm its first loss of the season. Thirteen teams are competing in the final volleyball season in the history of the base. The double-elimination post season tournament begins May 9.

Sports briefs

Volleyball results

Following are results from recent action:

■ Tuesday

726th AMS "B" def. Comm 25-23, 25-21

726th AMS "A" def. PAE B 25-12, 25-21

PAE "A" def. SFS 25-19, 25-11

■ Wednesday

Det. 1 def. 64th RC 25-22, 25-16

Clinic def. Det. 3 25-18, 25-10

CE def. Marines 14-25, 25-12, 15-9

Following are the current (as of Wednesday) intramural volleyball standings:

<u>Team</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
Consulate	9	0
Comm	8	1
CE	7	2
Clinic	7	3
726th AMS "B"	6	3
Marines	5	4

Fun run

A 5K Wingman Run is set for 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the youth center parking lot in Gateway Gardens.

For more information, call 330-7151.

Racquetball tournament

The 2005 U.S. Air Forces in Europe Racquetball Championship is set for May 13-16 at Ramstein.

There is no entry fee for this tournament and prizes will go to the top two finishers in each category. The tourney is open to all U.S. military ID cardholders in Europe, to include active duty, civilians and family members 18 years of age or older and out of school. Personnel TDY to USAFE for 30 days or more may participate.

Permissive TDY for active duty members is authorized with local commander's concurrence.

Entry forms must be turned in by May 9. To receive a form, call 480-7623 or 496-7934.

AFN sports

Following is part of the American Forces Network sports lineup for the weekend:

Saturday

1 a.m. AFN Sports – Washington Nationals vs. N.Y. Mets

2 a.m. AFN Prime Atlantic – Chicago Fire vs. N.Y./N.J. Metrostars

4 a.m. AFN Sports – Milwaukee Brewers vs. San Francisco Giants

1 p.m. AFN Sports – Cleveland Indians vs. Seattle Mariners

6 p.m. AFN Sports – National Football League Draft

9 p.m. AFN Prime Atlantic – National Basketball Association Playoffs

11:30 p.m. AFN Sports – NBA Playoffs

Sunday

1:30 a.m. AFN Prime Pacific/Korea – NASCAR Subway Fresh 500

2 a.m. AFN Sports – NBA Playoffs

4:30 a.m. AFN Sports – NBA Playoffs

9 a.m. AFN Sports – Chivas USA vs. Los Angeles Galaxy

1 p.m. AFN Prime Atlantic – Los Angeles Dodgers vs. Colorado Rockies

7 p.m. AFN Prime Atlantic – Cincinnati Reds vs. Florida Marlins

9 p.m. AFN Prime Pacific – Frankfurt Galaxy vs. Hamburg Sea Devils

New BX hours

The Rhein-Main Base Exchange began new hours of operation April 11.

New hours will be: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays - Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays. The shoppette in Gateway Gardens will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays - Fridays; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Computer classes

The family support center sponsors a Spouse Computer Skills Course from 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Our House.

Spouses of military and Department of Defense civilians interested in learning fundamental computer skills can sign up for this free class. Space is limited and participants must attend all classes.

Call 699-7913 to sign up.

Spring carnival

The Halvorsen-Tunner Parent, Teacher, Student Association sponsors the school's final Spring Carnival from 5 - 8 p.m. May 31.

Donations are needed.

For more details, e-mail school.officer@rheinmain.af.mil.

Business closure

G's Photography and Bob's Plaque

Shop, located in Bldg. 349 Community Connection, will close April 30.

Summer hire

Applications are currently available for the Rhein-Main Summer Hire Program.

This program is open to all dependents of active duty military or federal civilian employees at Rhein-Main on official orders. Eligible students must be 14 - 22 years old. The program runs June 27 to Aug. 5.

Applications are available at the FSC and are due back to the FSC by close-of-business May 4.

For more information contact 330-7992.

Mother's Day crafts

Parents can bring children of all ages to Our House from 3 - 5 p.m. May 5 to have photos taken and placed inside a special Mother's Day gifts.

Kids can make gift bags and cards while they wait for their photos.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Library closure

The base library will close May 6. The last day to check out items from the library is April 29.

All services inside the library will be available for use until the closure date.

For more information, call 330-6494.

Seiffen trip

The FSC sponsors a free trip to Seiffen, Germany's Christmas village and home of nutcrackers, smokers and more, May 7.

The bus departs the Bldg. 347 parking lot at 5 a.m. and the shoppette parking lot at 5:15 a.m. and is scheduled to return at 11 p.m.

Visit the FSC in the basement of Bldg. 347 to sign up. A 20 euro returnable deposit is required at the time of sign up.

Walking tour

The famous FSC walking tour of Frankfurt is set for May 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The tour, beginning at the shoppette parking lot, covers the use of public trans-

Movies at Rhein-Main

Tonight - "The Aviator," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "Son of the Mask," (PG) 5 p.m. and "The Ring 2," (PG-13) 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "The Aviator," (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wednesday - "Sahara," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

April 29 - "Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous?," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

April 30 - "Hitch," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "Constantine," (R), 7:30 p.m.

May 1 - "Because of Winn-Dixie," (PG), 7 p.m.

May 4 - "Amityville Horror," (R), 7 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities can be found at

www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp

portation and a brief history of Frankfurt. Participants should wear civilian clothes and walking shoes and it's recommended to bring at least 25 euros for lunch.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Assistance class

The FSC sponsors the final transition assistance class in the history of Rhein-Main from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 10 - 13 in the FSC classroom in Bldg. 347.

The class is designed for people who are separating or retiring within the next two years. Participants can learn nearly everything they need to know to successfully launch a new career after the military.

Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Luxembourg trip

The FSC sponsors a free trip to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg May 14.

The bus departs the parking lot of Bldg. 347 at 7 a.m. and the shoppette at 7:15 a.m. and returns approximately 9 p.m. The trip includes a visit to the American cemetery where Gen. George S. Patton is buried and a walk through the capital city.

Visit the FSC in the basement of Bldg. 347 to sign up. A 20 euro returnable deposit is required at the time of sign up.

Chapel schedule

The following worship opportunities are offered by the Rhein-Main Chapel:

■ Catholic worship:

Sunday Mass - 9 a.m. every Sunday.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

CCD - 10:30 a.m.

■ Protestant worship:

Sunday School - 9 a.m.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

Worship and Kids Own Church take place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.





Photos by Chief Master Sgt. Robert Stewart



(Left) The French National Cemetery outside of Verdun contains the graves of 15,000 French soldiers. Each grave is marked by a white cross with a name plate. Muslim soldiers are buried beneath a suitable gravestone facing towards Mecca. (Above) The Douaumont Ossuaire contains the remains of 130,000 unknown French and German soldiers.

The war to end all wars



Day Trippin'

By Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers
Public Affairs

It's hard to imagine the quiet French provincial town of Verdun as the site of one of the most horrific bloodlettings in the history of the world.

While historians continue to haggle over the exact number of losses, nearly all agree that more than 700,000 French and German soldiers were killed, injured or went missing during the 1916 battle which raged for 11 months.

While it's sometimes difficult to imagine what took place nearly 90 years ago, the rolling hills around Verdun still bear the scars of war and give a glimpse of the total destruction wrought by thousands of pieces of artillery – the largest bombardment in the history of the world at the time.

One of the moving monuments to the battle is the Douaumont Ossuaire, a monument which contains the remains of 130,000 unknown French and German soldiers, some of which can be seen through glass windows at the base of the monument.

Across the street is a French National

Cemetery containing the graves of 15,000 French soldiers.

Most tours of the battlefield begin at the Verdun Memorial Museum. Built in 1967 at the site of the former train station of the village of Fleury-devant-Douaumont. The museum houses weapons, uniforms, equipment and personal items of soldiers from both sides of the war. The museum also offers a movie presentation in English covering the history of World War I.

Just outside the museum, visitors can walk among the pockmarked remains of the village of Fleury, which was completely destroyed during the battle. Signposts mark where churches, stores and houses used to be.

Nearby is Fort Douaumont, the main French defensive point for Verdun. Visitors can walk through two-levels of subterranean corridors containing living, bathing and work areas as well as a German soldiers grave.

An explosion following the German takeover of the fort cost the lives of nearly 700 soldiers. The German commander had the area where they fell walled up as a permanent grave.

If you go...



Take Autobahn 5 south toward Basel. Just past Darmstadt take A-67 toward Mannheim. Then take A-6 toward Kaiserslautern. After crossing the French border, take A-4 toward Metz. Continue on A-4 until you reach the signs for Verdun.



The Verdun Memorial Museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 - 6 p.m. Fort Douaumont is open from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 - 5 p.m.



Admission ranges from 3 euro at Fort Douaumont to 7 euro at the memorial museum.



For more information log onto www.verdun-tourisme.com/en/index.htm or http://battlefields1418.50megs.com/verdun_museums.htm